

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 212552
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 H-01 CPR-03 A-01 /033 R

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P 212358Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////
ALSO FOR VATICAN OFFICE

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: VT, IT, US

SUBJECT: DELEGATION TO PAPAL CORONATION

REFERENCE: ROME 15201

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, WHITE HOUSE AND DEPARTMENT FACE
CONSIDERABLE PRESSURES TO ARRANGE GREATEST POSSIBLE PARTI-
CIPATION IN EVENTS RELATED TO PAPAL CORONATION. WE UNDER-
STAND VATICAN DESIRE TO LIMIT OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO
APPROXIMATELY SAME SIZE AS THAT WHICH ATTENDED FUNERAL AND
ALSO THAT SEATING FOR OFFICAL DELEGATES AND PARTY IS PRE-
SENTLY LIMITED TO 10.

2. AT SAME TIME, THERE IS LESS CONCERN HERE WITH SIZE OF
OFFICIAL DELEGATION ITSELF THAN WITH NEED TO ACCOMODATE
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PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS, ON UNOFFICIAL BASIS IF NEED BE.
SPECIFICALLY, WE NEED TO KNOW SOONEST IT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE
TO PROCURE SEATING FOR TOTAL OF 25 OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL
DELEGATES. UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS COULD SIT APART, AS ULTI-
MATELY BECAME POSSIBLE AT FUNERAL. IF ABSOLUTELY NECES-
SARY, SIZE OF OFFICIAL DELEGATION ITSELF COULD BE SCALED
DOWN SUBSTANTIALLY. KEY POINT IS THAT WE NEED TO BE ABLE

TO ENSURE THAT UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, ALL OF WHOM WOULD BE CONGRESSIONAL OR SIMILARLY SENIOR PERSONS, WOULD BE ABLE TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE IF NOT TWO OF THE THREE CORONATION EVENTS IT APPEARS WILL BE STAGED.

3. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST YOU APPROACH VATICAN AT APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL AND PRESS FOR ACQUIESCENCE IN ARRANGEMENTS AS PROPOSED ABOVE. LEAVE SUPPORTING ARGUMENTATION TO YOUR BEST JUDGEMENT, BUT GENUINE US ENTHUSIASM AND RESPECT FOR THE OCCASION SHOULD BE NOTED.

4. FYI: HEAD OF DELEGATION HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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